GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Mary and Martha Welcome Jesus

Luke 10:38-42



YOUR BIBLE READING

Jesus welcomed Mary as a learner and invited Martha beyond anxious busyness.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Two Sisters Welcome a Guest

Luke 10:38-42



As Jesus and his companions traveled, he entered a village. A woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. Her sister Mary was there too. Luke gives a brief account of their visit, without naming the village in this passage or describing the food on the table. The details he chooses lead us toward a lesson about listening, worry, and receiving a teacher who has come near.

Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to his teaching. Sitting near a teacher in this way showed her place as a learner. She was giving attention to his words rather than doing the tasks that occupied her sister. Luke does not describe Mary speaking in this scene. Her part is an attentive action: she stays near Jesus and hears what he is saying to those around him.

Martha was distracted by much serving. There was work to do, and she was troubled by doing it without her sister's help. She came to Jesus and asked whether he cared that Mary had left her to serve alone. Then she asked him to tell Mary to help. We know her concern because Luke tells us what she said, not because we have guessed at feelings she kept hidden.

Both women had a place in the home, and both were responding to Jesus' presence. Martha's welcome had opened the door, while Mary's listening had placed her near his words. Now the work had become a source of anxiety and complaint. Jesus answered Martha directly. His reply would show what he wanted to protect for Mary and what he wanted Martha to understand about the worry that had overtaken her.

Remember: Make room to listen to Jesus.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

The Good Part Mary Had Chosen

Luke 10:38-42



Jesus addressed Martha by name and acknowledged that she was anxious and troubled about many things. He did not pretend that she had said nothing or send her away without an answer. He brought her attention to the contrast between the many concerns filling her mind and the one thing that was needed. His response invited her to look again at what mattered in this particular moment with him.

Mary, Jesus said, had chosen the good part, and it would not be taken from her. He did not order her to stop learning and return to the work. Her place as a listener was worth protecting. A woman sitting at the teacher's feet did not have to give up that place simply because other people expected her to be busy with something else in the house.

To understand this short scene, we should pay attention to the difference between serving and being overwhelmed by serving. Luke names Martha's distraction and Jesus names her worry. The passage does not say that offering hospitality was bad, that preparing a meal was worthless, or that one sister mattered more than the other. It shows a welcome that had become anxious, and a teacher who redirected the conversation toward receiving his words.

The story stops after Jesus' reply. We are not told what Martha said next, whether the sisters rearranged the work, or what they ate. Those details should remain untold in a retelling too. What Jesus leaves clear is Mary's freedom to listen and Martha's invitation to see beyond her crowded concerns. Being near him involved receiving his teaching, not only doing tasks because he had arrived as a guest.

Pause and think: How could you make room for both shared responsibilities and careful listening in your day?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Attention Is Something We Can Offer



Have you ever been so busy getting ready for something that you found it hard to enjoy the person you were preparing for? A drawing, a game, or a celebration can become stressful if everything must be perfect. This story invites you to notice the person as well as the work. Listening can be a real part of a warm welcome.

Martha said what was troubling her. You can speak honestly when you need help, too. At home, an adult can help divide chores fairly and make room for rest and learning. The answer is not to decide that one sibling is always good and another is always wrong. Different people may need help with different parts of the same shared task.

Mary's place as a learner was important. Your questions and attention matter as well. You do not have to be the oldest or know the most before you can learn about Jesus. A quiet moment with a story, time to ask what a word means, or an attentive conversation with someone reading beside you can all make room for understanding.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Jesus protected Mary's place as a learner and spoke to Martha's anxious busyness.

How could you make room for both shared responsibilities and careful listening in your day?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What was Mary doing?

2. What troubled Martha?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Jesus affirms Mary's listening and speaks to Martha's worry.
- ☐ Martha welcomes Jesus into her home.
- ☐ Mary listens while Martha becomes troubled by the work.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw Mary listening and Martha talking honestly with Jesus.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Make room to listen to Jesus.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Luke 10:41-42

A thoughtful conversation

Avoid labeling Martha bad or household work worthless. Jesus addresses her worry and protects Mary's place as a disciple. Shared chores and rest can help children understand the passage without ranking siblings.

Activity answers

1. She was sitting near Jesus and listening to his teaching.
2. She felt overwhelmed by serving and left to work alone.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

Jesus, help us serve with care and also make time to listen. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Luke 10:38-42. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original DigiPick artwork made with AI assistance; an artistic interpretation.
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